

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of all of the claims of the application. Claims 1-42 are presently pending. Claims amended herein are: 1-5, 7-14, 16, 18-22, 24-26, 28, 30, and 32-42. No claim are added, withdrawn, or cancelled herein.

Formal Request for an Interview

[0003] If the Examiner's reply to this communication is anything other than allowance of all pending claims, then I formally request an interview with the Examiner. I encourage the Examiner to call me—the undersigned representative for the Applicant—so that we can talk about this matter so as to resolve any outstanding issues quickly and efficiently over the phone.

[0004] Please contact me to schedule a date and time for a telephone interview that is most convenient for both of us. While email works great for me, I welcome your call, as well. My contact information may be found on the last page of this response.

Claim Amendments

[0005] Without conceding the propriety of the rejections herein and in the interest of expediting prosecution, Applicant amends claims 1-5, 7-14, 16, 18-22, 24-26, 28, 30, and 32-42 herein. Applicant amends claims to clarify claimed features. Such amendments are made to expedite prosecution and more quickly identify allowable subject matter. Such amendments are merely intended to clarify the claimed features, and should not be construed as further limiting the claimed invention in response to the cited reference.

[0006] Support for the claim amendments presented herein may be found at least at the following locations of the specification, as originally filed: Summary, paragraph 3; Fig. 3; Fig. 9; page 16-17; and pages 20-21.

Substantive Matters

Claim Rejections under § 101

[0007] Claims 35-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. Furthermore, in light of the amendments presented herein, Applicant respectfully submits that these claims comply with the patentability requirements of §101 and that the §101 rejections should be withdrawn.

[0008] In issuing the 101 rejection, the Board indicates that claims 35-42 each recite “computer-readable media” and that the specification states that the “computer-readable media may comprise...‘communications media’...” (Decision on Appeal, page 15.) Claims 35-42 have each been amended to recite “computer storage media”, rather than “computer-readable media”. On page 14 of the specification, a distinction is made between “communications media” and “computer storage media” – each of which may be considered “computer readable media”. Computer storage media is not described as including carrier waves or signals. Accordingly, Applicant submits that, as amended, claims 35-42 meet the patentability requirements of §101.

Claim Rejections under § 102

[0009] Claims 1-42 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102. In light of the amendments presented herein, Applicant submits that these rejections are moot. Accordingly, Applicant asks the Examiner to withdraw these rejections.

[0010] Specifically, the Decision on Appeal addresses claims 1, 10, 16, and 35, as being representative of the other claims. On page 10 of the Decision, the Board states:

- the claimed “alert” reads on any electronically transmitted, user-requested information; and
- the claimed “alert sources” includes any source which can transmit information electronically

[0011] Claim 1 has been amended to distinguish a centralized alert center from an alert source, to clarify that the centralized alert center is not directly associated with the alert source, to clarify that the alert source is configured to enable users to subscribe directly to the alert source; to clarify that the centralized alert center *acts on the user’s behalf* to subscribe to and receive alerts from an alert source for the user, and to clarify that the alert that is received on the user’s behalf from the alert source is the same alert that is forwarded to the user.

[0012] Applicant submits that dependent claims 2-15 are allowable at least by virtue of their dependence on claim 1. Furthermore, dependent claims 2-5 and 7-14 are amended to maintain consistent language with independent claim 1, as amended. One or more of these claims may also be allowable for one or more other independent reasons.

[0013] For example, regarding claim 10, the Board states that, “Although Appellants’ claim 10 requires a first and second delivery action, there is no requirement that the delivery actions be different from each other.” (Decision, page 13.)

[0014] Claim 10 has been amended herein to clarify that, “the second delivery method is not the same as the first delivery method.”

[0015] Independent claim 16 has been amended similarly as claim 1, to clarify that:

- each of the multiple alert sources is configured to enable users to subscribe to receive alerts directly from the alert source; and
- the centralized alert delivery system is configured as an intermediary that enables a user to direct the centralized alert delivery system to subscribe to receive alerts directly from the multiple alert sources on behalf of the user, thereby enabling the user to receive alerts from the alert source without providing any user contact information to the alert source.

[0016] Applicant submits that dependent claims 17-27 are allowable at least by virtue of their dependence on claim 16. Furthermore, dependent claims 18-22 and 24-26 are amended to maintain consistent language with independent claim 16, as amended. One or more of these claims may also be allowable for one or more other independent reasons.

[0017] Claim 28 is amended herein to recite elements similar to those recited in claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claim 28 is allowable for reasons similar to the reasons for which claim 1 is allowable.

[0018] Applicant submits that dependent claims 29-34 are allowable at least by virtue of their dependence on claim 28. Furthermore, dependent claims 30 and 32-34 are amended to maintain consistent language with independent claim 28, as amended. One or more of these claims may also be allowable for one or more other independent reasons.

[0019] Claim 35 has been amended to recite elements similar to those recited in claim 1. Applicant submits that claim 35 is therefore allowable for reasons similar to those given above with reference to claim 1.

[0020] Applicant submits that dependent claims 36-42 are allowable at least by virtue of their dependence on claim 35. Furthermore, dependent claims 36-42 are amended to maintain consistent language with independent claim 35, as amended. One or more of these claims may also be allowable for one or more other independent reasons.

Dependent Claims

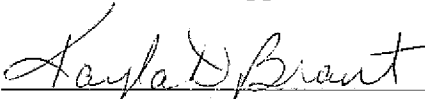
[0021] In addition to its own merits, each dependent claim is allowable for the same reasons that its base claim is allowable. Applicant requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of each dependent claim where its base claim is allowable.

Conclusion

[0022] All pending claims are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and prompt issuance of the application. If any issues remain that prevent issuance of this application, the **Examiner is urged to contact me before issuing a subsequent Action.** Please call or email me or my assistant at your convenience.

Respectfully Submitted,

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